

Amendment to Claims

This listing of Claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in this Application.

Listing of Claims

Claim 1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A PDF-exclusive method for process handling of a PDF data stream which is en route to a printer comprising

querying such a PDF data stream to detect exclusively ~~the presence therein the~~ presence of a PDF image-only file,

on detecting ~~the exclusively such a~~ presence of a PDF image-only file in the data stream, and with respect to the PDF data in ~~that the detected~~ file, directing that data to a dedicated and exclusive, PDF image-only pipeline processing path en route to the printer, and

for PDF files that are other than a PDF image-only file, performing with respect to PDF data in such other files conventional PDF handling en route to the printer.

Claim 2. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim 1, wherein said exclusive directing includes specifically directing a the detected, image-only ~~block~~ of PDF data to a path which includes processing steps involving image decoding, and downstream from image decoding, rendering for printing.

Claim 3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) Apparatus for handling exclusively a PDF data stream which is en route to a printer comprising

querying structure for querying a PDF data stream to detect exclusively therein the

presence of any image-only block of PDF data, and

· operatively connected to said querying structure, and downstream therefrom, (a) PDF-exclusive processing structure which is dedicated to PDF image-only data processing for processing image-only blocks of PDF data, and (b) processing structure for conventional PDF handling of PDF data which are other than image-only blocks of PDF data, wherein said querying structure, when querying a PDF data stream that is en route to a printer, deflects the PDF data from said processing structure for conventional PDF handling to said processing structure which is dedicated to PDF image-only data processing when an image-only block of PDF data is detected.

Claim 4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The apparatus of claim 3, wherein said PDF-exclusive processing structure which is dedicated to PDF image-only data processing includes image decoding structure, and downstream from said image decoding structure, ~~render for~~ printing render-for-printing structure.